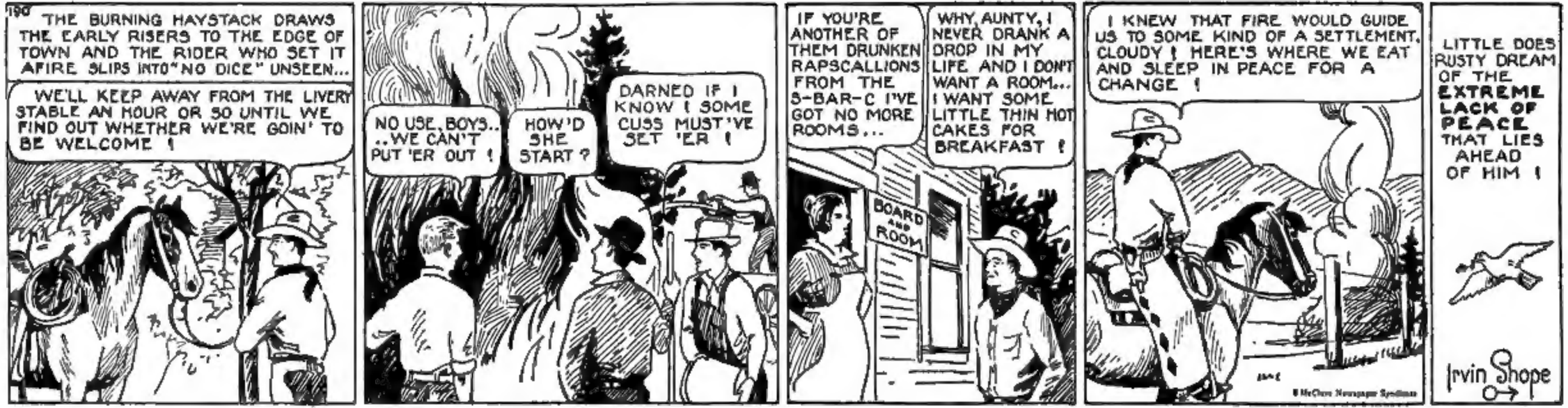
TIRED AND HUNGRY

Rusty Rawlins, Cowboy

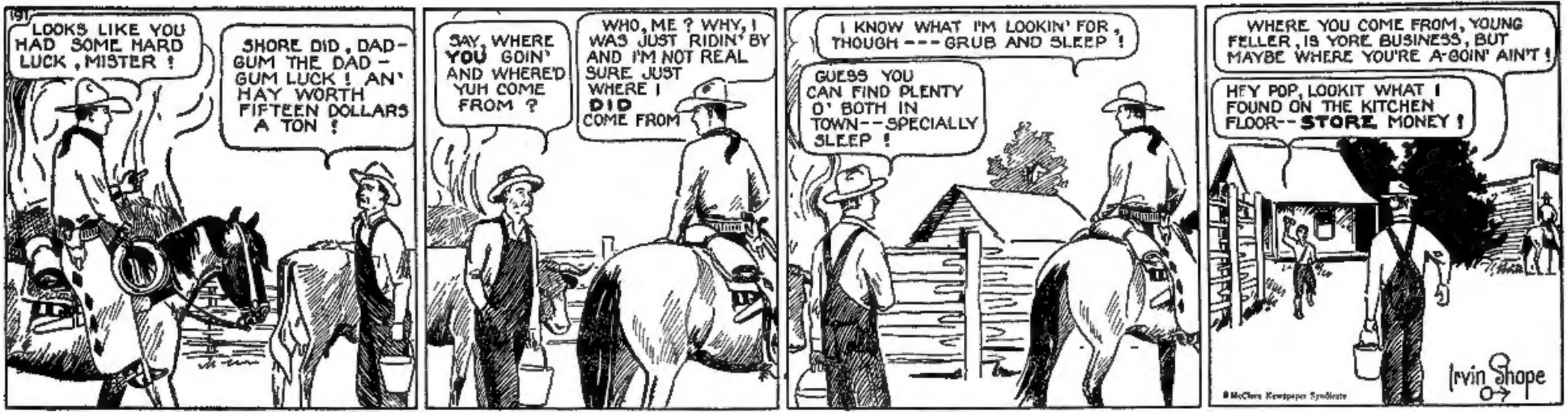
By Glenn Chaffin


THE BURNING HAYSTACK DRAWS THE EARLY RISERS TO THE EDGE OF TOWN AND THE RIDER WHO SET IT AFIRE SLIPS INTO "NO DICE" UNSEEN...
WE'LL KEEP AWAY FROM THE LIVERY STABLE AN HOUR OR SO UNTIL WE FIND OUT WHETHER WE'RE GOIN' TO BE WELCOME !
NO USE, BOYS.. ..WE CAN'T PUT 'ER OUT !
HOW'D SHE START ?
DARNED IF I KNOW ! SOME CUSS MUST'VE SET 'ER !
IF YOU'RE ANOTHER OF THEM DRUNKEN RAPSCALLIONS FROM THE S-BAR-C I'VE GOT NO MORE ROOMS...
WHY, AUNTY, I NEVER DRANK A DROP IN MY LIFE AND I DON'T WANT A ROOM... I WANT SOME LITTLE THIN HOT CAKES FOR BREAKFAST !
BOARD AND ROOM
I KNEW THAT FIRE WOULD GUIDE US TO SOME KIND OF A SETTLEMENT, CLOUDY ! HERE'S WHERE WE EAT AND SLEEP IN PEACE FOR A CHANGE !
LITTLE DOES RUSTY DREAM OF THE EXTREME LACK OF PEACE THAT LIES AHEAD OF HIM !
Irvin Shope

WHO WANTS TO KNOW?

Rusty Rawlins, Cowboy

By Glenn Chaffin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LOOKS LIKE YOU HAD SOME HARD LUCK, MISTER !
SHORE DID, DAD-GUM THE DAD-GUM LUCK ! AN' HAY WORTH FIFTEEN DOLLARS A TON !
SAY, WHERE YOU GOIN' AND WHERE'D YUH COME FROM ?
WHO, ME ? WHY, I WAS JUST RIDIN' BY AND I'M NOT REAL SURE JUST WHERE I DID COME FROM
I KNOW WHAT I'M LOOKIN' FOR, THOUGH --- GRUB AND SLEEP !
GUESS YOU CAN FIND PLENTY O' BOTH IN TOWN--SPECIALLY SLEEP !
WHERE YOU COME FROM, YOUNG FELLER, IS YORE BUSINESS, BUT MAYBE WHERE YOU'RE A-GOIN' AIN'T !
HEY POP, LOOKIT WHAT I FOUND ON THE KITCHEN FLOOR--STORE MONEY !
Irvin Shope
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SLEEPY TOWN OF "NO DICE"

Rusty Rawlins, Cowboy

By Glenn Chaffin

SURE IS A SLEEPY LOOKIN' TOWN ! STILL APPEARANCES ARE SOMETIMES DECEIVIN'...
NO DICE LIVERY STA
HE'S A GOOD HORSE AND HE'S SEEN SOME HARD TRAVELIN', SO TREAT HIM RIGHT, WILL YOU ?
I'LL DO 'ER ! I'LL SURE DO 'ER, BROTHER ! YOU LOOK LIKE YOU BEEN DODGIN' THE COMFORTS O' HOME SOME LATELY YOURSELF !
WOULDN'T GO AROUND TOTIN' THAT GUN EF'N I WAS YOU, SON... THEY'S A CITY ORD'NANCE AGAINST CARRYIN' FIREARMS LESS'N YORE A DEPUTY SHURRUF !
THANKS-- HOLD IT FOR ME ! I'M NOT HUNTIN' ANY TROUBLE !
STRANGER HERE, AIN'T YOU KEED ? OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEBODY WHO KNOWS SOMEBODY WHO LIVES HERE ?
GOSH, DOES A FELLOW HAVE TO CARRY AN IDENTIFICATION TAG TO GET A BREAKFAST IN THIS TOWN ?
FIRST DOUBT, THEN SUSPICION, THEN ACTUAL ACCUSATION-- AND PRETTY SOON RUSTY BECOMES THE STORM CENTER OF A VILLAGE WAR CRY FOR VENGEANCE !! WHY ?
Irvin Shope

CLOUDS LOWERING OVER RUSTY

Rusty Rawlins, Cowboy

By Glenn Chaffin

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YOU EAT A GOOD BREAKFAST, KEED ! WHERE YOU GO NOW, HUH ?
LOOK AROUND A LITTLE, I RECKON--MAYBE HUNT ME A ROOM AND TAKE A NAP....
RUSTY HAS JUST ENJOYED HIS FIRST PEACEFUL BREAKFAST IN SEVERAL DAYS IN THE TOWN OF NO DICE

SO THAT'S THE DOPE --CLOUDY'S THE BUCKO WHO ATTRACTED ALL THE ATTENTION, NOT ME !
$10,000 REWARD FOR THE MASKED BANDIT KNOWN ONLY AS THE "MAVERICK" LAST SEEN RIDING A BLUE ROAN HORSE...
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LOOK, SUDS ! MONEY ! MY KID FOUND IT IN THE KITCHEN--ROLL OF BILLS WRAPPED AROUND A HANDFUL OF HAY !
SOUNDS LIKE ONE OF THEM FOOL SHOW-OFF STUNTS PULLED BY THE "MAVERICK" --JEST LIKE HIM TO SET YORE HAYSTACK ON FIRE, THEN PAY FOR IT...
HAIRCUTS 25¢

YOU HAD ANY RUN-IN WITH THAT SLIPPERY OUTLAW ?
NOPE, NEVER ! BUT, BY GRABS, I BET IT WAS HIM ! AND HE'S IN THIS TOWN RIGHT NOW--HE RODE UP AND TALKED TO ME, RIDIN' THAT BLUE ROAN HAWSS !
HAIRCUTS 25¢
Irvin Shope

THE POSSE COMES HOME

Rusty Rawlins, Cowboy

By Glenn Chaffin

MY GAWSH, SUDS ! HERE HE COMES NOW --AN' HE AIN'T EVEN PACKIN' A GUN ! COURSE THEY'S A LAW AGAINST IT--
YOU GOT PIPE DREAMS, "DOC"-- THAT'S ONLY A RANGE KID-- DRIFTIN' COWHAND OUT OF WORK, LIKE AS NOT....

AT THAT MOMENT WE FIND THE MYSTERIOUS RIDER WHO SET FIRE TO "DOC" CRAIG'S HAYSTACK LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW OF MRS. O'LEARY'S BOARDING HOUSE.....
WHO ARE ALL THE "VISITING FIREMEN ?"
WELL, I SWAN, I DO FOR A FACT !

BOARD-ROOM
IT'S WHIP SWIFT AN' HIS POSSE A-COMIN' HOME --- BEEN OUT LOOKIN' FER THAT WHELP WHO CALLS HISSELF THE "MAVERICK" !
Irvin Shope

SOME LOW-DOWN ON THE "MAVERICK"

Rusty Rawlins, Cowboy

By Glenn Chaffin

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HELLO, WHIP! KETCH THUH "MAVERICK"?
DON'T SEE HIM, DO YUH? WE RUN 'IM RAGGED FOR A WHILE, THOUGH, THE "TRAIN JUMPIN" SLICKIE!
OFFICE
NO DICE MEAT MARKET
WHAT'S GOING ON OUT THERE, A CONVENTION?
MORE LIKE A WAKE, I GUESS...SOME OF THE BOYS BEEN "WOLF" HUNTIN' BUT I DON'T SEE ANY HIDES....HA!
EVER HEAR TELL OF AN OUTLAW KNOWN AS THE "MAVERICK," COWBOY?
SEEMS LIKE--DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HIM....WHO IS HE?
THAT'S WHAT A LOT OF FOLKS WOULD LIKE TO KNOW--HE'S WISER'N A HE-COON AND HAS NEVER BEEN SEEN WITHOUT A MASK ON! BUT HE'S WANTED FOR MURDER, TRAIN ROBBIN' AND RUSTLIN'!
HE'S NO PIKER BUT HE CAN'T GET AWAY WITH ALL THAT FOR-EVER!
Irvin Shope